EASA- 2263

Bourd

RLG

file

Chief, EE

Attn:

Chief of Base, Salzburg

Operational/GROOVY

1 8 Okt. 1953

EASA-2263

GROSSBAHN - Progress Report for Period 16 August to 30 Sept. 1953.

REF: EASA-2018

INFO: Vienna

A. **SYNOPSIS.** The following paragraphs reflect progress within the Grossbahn operation for the period indicated.

    1. Salient developments were:

        a. Orderly termination of the Grossbahn operation and disposition of Grossbahn in the U. S. is in process.

        b. Processing of reports from the ⌐ ⌐ Bucharest trip.

        c. Phase-over of ⌐ ⌐ and ⌐ ⌐ planned for 7 October and 15 October respectively.

B. **Specific Action Required of Headquarters.**

    See following cables: DIR-18334, SVIEN-0883, DIR-20359, and SSAIZ-1755. Request continued Headquarters efforts to secure ODURGE waiver to facilitate GROSSBAHN entry into U. S.

C. **DEVELOPMENTS.**

    1. **Termination.** A good deal of our efforts during the period were devoted to convincing GROSSBAHN that the time had arrived for him to sever his connection with KUBARK, take up residence in the U. S., and realize his hope of becoming an American citizen. We have managed to resolve GROSSBAHN's doubts as to the propriety of such a move at this time and are tentatively scheduling his departure for mid November. Two major problems face us: securing visas for his wife and son, and Headquarters' securing ODURGE waivers to get Grossbahn into the U. S. We have been in touch with ⌐ ⌐ of MOB in regard to the visas and should encounter no unusual delay in obtaining the wife's and son's documentation. According to DIR-20359, Headquarters expects no difficulties in securing an ODURGE waiver. On the basis of the thorough and favorable LCFLUTTER of Grossbahn (which we reported in SSAIZ-1755) we feel that there will be no reason for Headquarters to change this viewpoint.

10 OCT 1955

2. [   ]. Efforts on this agent were confined to debriefing him on his recent trip to Bucharest and reviewing with him the photographs he took on the trip. We have submitted two batches of KURIOT material (see EAVA-4404 and EASA-2144). Yet to be processed are all the photographs, dead drops and meeting sites in Bucharest, and the operational reports on his trip. One cable was dispatched regarding the rumor that a plane had dropped anti-Communist leaflets during the Youth Festival (see SSALZ-1700). Though [   ] picked up this rumor in Bucharest, he could find nothing confirmatory. We plan to phase operation of [   ] to [   ] on or about 7 October 1953.

3. <u>HH-1 and [   ]</u>. See EASA's-2106 and 2154. Lengthy interrogation failed to bring forth any significant admissions on the part of HH-1, despite continued LCFLUTTER indications that he was practicing deception regarding his contacts to the Soviets. In interrogating HH-1 we were mainly interested in two points: how HH-1's possible Soviet connections might affect our plans vis-a-vis [   ] and the general CE implications regarding the Grossbahn operation. Indications (secured from both HH-1 and [   ] are that the latter has not been compromised to the Soviets, and we plan to proceed with [   ]'s taking [   ] over directly, under maximum security. Tentative takeover date is 15 October. HH-1 was dropped as a Grossbahn agent effective 31 August, with the CE ramifications regarding the Grossbahn operation generally unresolved.

4. <u>PP-1</u>. We have instructed this agent to proceed with plans to effect his transfer to Vienna. Details concerning a VOB takeover will be worked out jointly with them, and Headquarters will be informed accordingly.

D. <u>Future Plans</u>. Present plans call for the Grossbahn operation, as such, to be completely phased out and Grossbhan on his way to the U. S. by 15 November. PP-1 and AA-1 will be turned over to Vienna; CC-3, PP-3, [   ] and [   ] will come under direct case officer control at SOB. The balance of agents, with the exception of EE-1 who may be of value in the Linz area, will be dropped.

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